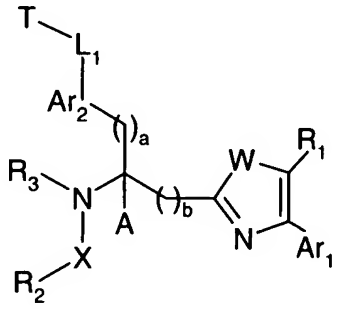
Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of Formula (I):



(I)

wherein

a and b are equal to 0 and 1; wherein the values of 0 and 1 comprise a direct bond and $-CH_2-$, respectively, and wherein the $-CH_2-$ group is optionally substituted 1 to 2 times with a substituent group, wherein said substituent group(s) or the term substituted refers to groups comprising: -alkyl, -aryl, -alkylene-aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-arylene-alkyl, -O-alkyl, -O-aryl, or –hydroxyl;

W is –O-, -S-, or $-N(R_4)-$;

wherein

R_4 is

a) -hydrogen;

b) -alkyl;

c) $-L_2$-D-G;

d) $-L_2$-D-alkyl;

e) $-L_2$-D-aryl;

f) $-L_2$-D-heteroaryl;

g) $-L_2$-D-cycloalkyl;

h) $-L_2$-D-heterocyclyl;

i) $-L_2$-D-arylene-alkyl;

j) $-L_2$-D-alkylene-cycloalkyl;

k) – L_2-D-alkylene-heterocyclyl;

l) – L_2-D-alkylene-aryl;

m) – L_2-D-alkylene-heteroaryl;

n) – L_2-D-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

o) – L_2-D-alkylene-heteroarylene-alkyl;

p) –L_2-D-alkyl-G;

q) – L_2-D-aryl-G;

r) – L_2-D-heteroaryl-G;

s) – L_2-D-cycloalkyl-G;

t) – L_2-D-heterocyclyl-G;

u) – L_2-D-arylene-alkyl-G;

v) – L_2-D-alkylene-cycloalkyl-G;

w) – L_2-D-alkylene-heterocyclyl-G;

x) – L_2-D-alkylene-aryl-G;

y) – L_2-D-alkylene-heteroaryl-G;

z) – L_2-D-alkylene-arylene-alkyl-G; or

aa) – L_2-D-alkylene-heteroarylene-alkyl-G;

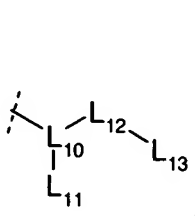
wherein

L_2 is a direct bond, –alkylene, -alkenylene , or -alkynylene;

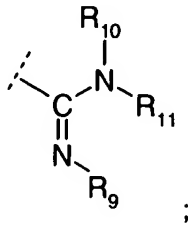
D is a direct bond, $–CH_2$-, -O-, $-N(R_5)$-, -C(O)-, $-CON(R_5)$-, $-N(R_6)C(O)$-, $-N(R_6)CON(R_5)$-, $-N(R_5)C(O)O$-, $-OC(O)N(R_5)$-, $-N(R_5)SO_2$-, $-SO_2N(R_5)$-, -C(O)-O-, -O-C(O)-, -S-, -S(O)-, $-S(O_2)$-, or $-N(R_5)SO_2N(R_6)$-, -N=N-, or $-N(R_5)$-$N(R_6)$-,

wherein R_5 and R_6 are independently selected from the group consisting of : -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, and -alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

G is -H, -alkyl, –CN, $-SO_3H$, $-P(O)(OH)_2$, -P(O)(O-alkyl)(OH), $–CO_2H$, $-CO_2$-alkyl, an acid isostere, $-NR_7R_8$,



, or



;

wherein

L_{10} is alkyline, cycloalkyline, heteroaryline, aryline, or heterocyclyline;

L_{12} is -O-, -C(O)-N(R_{40})- , -C(O)-O-, -C(O)-, or –N(R_{40})-CO-N(R_{41})-;

L_{13} is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, or -alkylene-aryl;

L_{11} is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, -alkylene-aryl, -alkylene -heteroaryl, alkylene-O-alkylene-aryl, -alkylene-S-alkylene-aryl, -alkylene-O-alkyl, -alkylene-S-alkyl, -alkylene-NH_2, -alkylene-OH, -alkylene-SH, -alkylene-C(O)-OR_{42}, -alkylene-C(O)-$NR_{42}R_{43}$, -alkylene-$NR_{42}R_{43}$, -alkylene-N(R_{42})-C(O)-R_{43}, , -alkylene-N(R_{42})-S(O_2)-R_{43} , or the side chain of a natural or non – natural amino acid;

R_{42} and R_{43} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, aryl, alkyl, and alkylene-aryl;

wherein

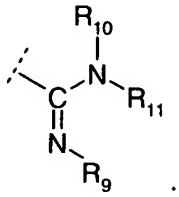
R_{42} and R_{43} may be taken together to form a ring having the formula – $(CH_2)_q$-Y-$(CH_2)_r$- bonded to the nitrogen atom to which R_{11} and R_{12} are attached, wherein q and r are, independently, 1, 2, 3, or 4; Y is -CH_2-, -C(O)-, -O-, -N(H)-, -S-, -S(O)-, -SO_2-, -CON(H)-, -NHC(O)-, -NHCON(H)-, -$NHSO_2$-, -SO_2N(H)-, -(O)CO-, -$NHSO_2NH$-, -OC(O)-, -N(R_{44})-, -N(C(O)R_{44})-, -N(C(O)NHR_{44})-, -N(SO_2NHR_{44})-, -N(SO_2R_{44})-, or -N(C(O)OR_{44})-; or

R_{42} and R_{43} may be taken together, with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, to form a heterocyclyl or heteroaryl ring [[.]] ;

R_{40}, R_{41}, and R_{44} are independently selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, aryl, alkyl, or alkylene-aryl [[.]] ;

and wherein

R_7 and R_8 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, -alkyl, -L_3-E-alkyl, -L_3-E-aryl, -C(O)-alkyl, -C(O)-aryl, -SO_2-alkyl, -SO_2-aryl, and



;

wherein

R_9, R_{10}, and R_{11} are independently selected from the group consisting of : -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, and -alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

L_3 is a direct bond, –alkylene, -alkenylene , or -alkynylene;

E is a direct bond, –CH_2-, -O-, -N(R_{12})-, -C(O)-, -CON(R_{12})-, -N(R_{12})C(O)-, -N(R_{12})CON(R_{13})-, -N(R_{12})C(O)O-, -OC(O)N(R_{12})-, -N(R_{12})SO_2-, -SO_2N(R_{12})-, -C(O)-O-, -O-C(O)-, -S-, -S(O)-, -S(O_2)-, -N(R_{12})SO_2N(R_{13})-, -N=N-, or -N(R_{12})-N(R_{13})-,

wherein

R_{12} and R_{13} are independently selected from the group consisting of : -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, and -alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

A is hydrogen, -alkyl, -alkenyl, or -alkynyl;

X is

a) -C(O)-;

b) -CH_2-;

wherein the $-CH_2-$ group is optionally substituted 1 to 2 times with a substituent group, wherein said substituent group(s) are selected from the group consisting of: -alkyl, -aryl, -alkylene-aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-arylene-alkyl, -O-alkyl, -O-aryl, and –hydroxyl [[.]] ;

c) a direct bond; or

d) $-SO_2-$;

R_1 is

a) -hydrogen;

b) –fluoro

c) –chloro

d) –bromo

e) –iodo

f) -cyano

g) -alkyl;

h) –aryl;

i) -alkylene-aryl;

j) -heteroaryl;

k) –alkylkene-heteroaryl;

l) –cycloalkyl;

m) –alkylene-cycloalkyl

n) – heterocyclyl; or

o) – alkylene-heterocyclyl;

R_2 is

a) -perfluoroalkyl;

b) $-J-R_{14}$;

c) -alkyl;

d) -aryl;

e) -heteroaryl;

f) -heterocyclyl;

g) -cycloalkyl;

h) $-L_4$ -aryl;

i) $-L_4$-arylene-aryl;

j) $-L_4$-arylene-alkyl;

k) -arylene-alkyl;

l) -arylene-arylene-alkyl;

m) -J-alkyl;

n) -J-aryl;

o) -J-alkylene-aryl;

p) -J-arylene-alkyl;

q) -J-alkylene-arylene-aryl;

r) -J-arylene-arylene-aryl;

s) -J-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

t) $-L_4$-J-alkylene-aryl;

u) -arylene-J-alkyl;

v) $-L_4$-J-aryl;

w) $-L_4$-J-heteroaryl;

x) $-L_4$-J-cycloalkyl;

y) $-L_4$-J-cycloalkylene-alkyl;

z) $-L_4$-J-heterocyclyl;

aa) $-L_4$-J-arylene-alkyl;

bb) $-L_4$-J-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

cc) $-L_4$-J-alkyl;

dd) $-L_4$-J-R_{14};

ee) $-L_4$-J-alkylene-R_{14};

ff) -J-L_4-R_{14};

gg) -arylene-J-R_{14};

hh) $-L_4$-arylene-J-alkyl;

ii) $-L_4$-alkylene-J-alkyl;

jj) $-L_4$-arylene-J-aryl;or

kk) -hydrogen;

wherein

L_4 is a direct bond, –alkylene, -alkenylene , –alkynylene [[.]] ,

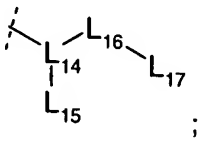
heterocyclylene, cycloalkylene, arylene, or heteroarylene;

J is a direct bond, $-CH_2-$, -O-, $-N(R_{15})-$, -C(O)-, $-CON(R_{15})-$, $-N(R_{15})C(O)-$, $-N(R_{15})CON(R_{16})-$, $-N(R_{15})C(O)O-$, $-OC(O)N(R_{15})-$, $-N(R_{15})SO_2-$, $-SO_2N(R_{15})-$, -C(O)-O-, -O-C(O)-, -S-, -S(O)-, $-S(O_2)-$, $-N(R_{15})SO_2N(R_{16})-$, -N=N-, or $-N(R_{15})-N(R_{16})-$,

wherein

R_{15} and R_{16} are independently selected from the group consisting of : -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, and -alkylene-arylene-alkyl [[.]] .

R_{14} is: -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, -alkylene-arylene-alkyl, or



;

wherein

L_{14} is alkyline, cycloalkyline, heteroaryline, aryline, or heterocyclyline;

L_{16} is -O-, $-C(O)-N(R_{45})-$, -C(O)-O-, -C(O)-, or $-N(R_{45})-CO-N(R_{46})-$;

L_{17} is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, or -alkylene-aryl;

L_{15} is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, -alkylene-aryl, -alkylene -heteroaryl, alkylene-O-alkylene-aryl, -alkylene-S-alkylene-aryl, -alkylene-O-alkyl, -alkylene-S-alkyl, $-alkylene-NH_2$, -alkylene-OH, -alkylene-SH, $-alkylene-C(O)-OR_{47}$, $-alkylene-C(O)-NR_{47}R_{48}$, $-alkylene-NR_{47}R_{48}$, $-alkylene-N(R_{47})-C(O)-R_{48}$, , $-alkylene-N(R_{47})-S(O_2)-R_{48}$, or the side chain of a natural or non – natural amino acid;

R_{47} and R_{48} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, aryl, alkyl, and alkylene-aryl;

R_{47} and R_{48} may be taken together, with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, to form a heterocyclyl or heteroaryl ring [[.]] ,

R_{45} and R_{46} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, aryl, alkyl, and alkylene-aryl;

R_3 is

a) -hydrogen
b) -alkyl
c) -aryl;
d) -alkylene-cycloalkyl;
e) -arylene-alkyl;
f) -alkylene-aryl; or
g) -alkylene-heteroaryl;

Ar_1 is an aryl, heteroaryl, fused cycloalkylaryl, fused cycloalkylheteroaryl, fused heterocyclylaryl, or fused heterocyclylheteroaryl group optionally substituted 1 to 7 times;

Ar_2 is an arylene, heteroarylene, fused arylcycloalkylene, fused cycloalkylarylene, fused cycloalkylheteroarylene, fused heterocyclylarylene, or fused heterocyclylheteroarylene group optionally substituted 1 to 7 times;

L_1 is a direct bond, $-CH_2-$, -O-, alkylene, alkenylene, -O-alkylene-, -alkylene-O-, $-N(R_{23})-$, -C(O)-, $-CON(R_{23})-$, $-N(R_{23})C(O)-$, $-N(R_{23})CON(R_{24})-$, $-N(R_{23})C(O)O-$, $-OC(O)N(R_{23})-$, $-N(R_{23})SO_2-$, $-SO_2N(R_{23})-$, -C(O)-O-, -O-C(O)-, -S-, -S(O)-, $-S(O_2)-$, $-N(R_{23})SO_2N(R_{24})-$, -N=N-, or $-N(R_{23})-N(R_{24})-$;

wherein

R_{23} and R_{24} are independently selected from the group consisting of : - hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, alkylene-aryl, –alkylene-arylene-alkyl, and a direct bond;

T is hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl, heteroaryl, fused cycloalkylaryl, fused cycloalkylheteroaryl, fused heterocyclylaryl, or fused

heterocyclylheteroaryl group optionally substituted 1 to 7 times, wherein the substituents are independently selected from the group consisting of :

a) -fluoro;
b) -chloro;
c) -bromo;
d) -iodo;
e) -cyano;
f) -nitro;
g) -perfluoroalkyl;
h) -U-R_{25};
i) -alkyl;
j) -aryl;
k) -heteroaryl;
l) -heterocyclyl;
m) -cycloalkyl;
n) -L_7 -aryl;
o) -L_7-arylene-aryl;
p) -L_7-arylene-alkyl;
q) -arylene-alkyl;
r) -arylene-arylene-alkyl;
s) -U-alkyl;
t) -U-aryl;
u) -U-alkylene-aryl;
v) -U-arylene-alkyl;
w) -U-alkylene-arylene-aryl;
x) -U-arylene-arylene-aryl;
y) -U-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;
z) -L_7-U-alkylene-aryl;
aa) -arylene-U-alkyl;
bb) -L_7-U-aryl;
cc) -L_7-U-heteroaryl;
dd) -L_7-U-cycloalkyl;

ee) – L_7-U-heterocyclyl;

ff) -L_7-U-arylene-alkyl;

gg) -L_7-U-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

hh) -L_7-U-alkyl;

ii) -L_7-U-alkylene-aryl-R_{25};

jj) -L_7-U-alkylene-heteroaryl- R_{25};

kk) -arylene-U-alkylene- R_{25};

ll) -heteroarylene-U-alkylene- R_{25};

mm) -L_7-U-aryl- R_{25};

nn) -L_7-U-heteroarylene- R_{25};

oo) -L_7-U-heteroaryl- R_{25};

pp) -L_7-U-cycloalkyl- R_{25};

qq) -L_7-U-heterocyclyl- R_{25};

rr) -L_7-U-arylene-alkyl- R_{25};

ss) -L_7-U-heteroarylene-alkyl- R_{25};

tt) -L_7-U-alkylene-arylene-alkyl- R_{25};

uu) -L_7-U-alkylene-heteroarylene-alkyl- R_{25};

vv) -L_7-U-alkylene-cycloalkylene-alkyl- R_{25};

ww) -L_7-U-alkylene-heterocyclylene-alkyl- R_{25};

xx) -L_7-U-alkyl- R_{25};

yy) -L_7-U- R_{25};

zz) -arylene-U- R_{25};

aaa) -heteroarylene-U- R_{25};

bbb) -heterocyclylene-U- R_{25};

ccc) -U-alkylene- R_{25};

ddd) -U-arylene- R_{25};

eee) -U-heteroarylene- R_{25};

fff) -U-alkylene-arylene- R_{25};

ggg) -U-alkylene-heteroarylene- R_{25};

hhh) -U-heteroarylene-alkylene- R_{25};

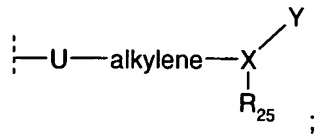
iii) -U-arylene-alkylene- R_{25};

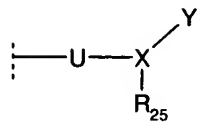
jjj) -U-cycloalkylene-alkylene- R_{25};

kkk) -U-heterocyclylene-alkylene- R_{25};

lll) -U-alkylene-arylene-alkyl- R_{25};

mmm) -U-alkylene-heteroarylene-alkyl- R_{25};

nnn)  ;

ooo)  ; and

ppp) –hydrogen;

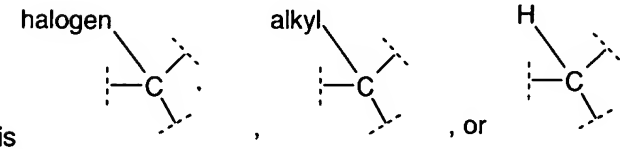
wherein

L_7 is a direct bond, –alkylene, -alkenylene , or –alkynylene;

U is a direct bond, $-CH_2-$, -O-, $-N(R_{26})-$, -C(O)-, $-CON(R_{26})-$, $-N(R_{26})C(O)-$, $-N(R_{26})CON(R_{27})-$, $-N(R_{26})C(O)O-$, $-OC(O)N(R_{26})-$, $-N(R_{26})SO_2-$, $-SO_2N(R_{26})-$, -C(O)-O-, -O-C(O)-, -S-, -S(O)-, $-S(O_2)-$, $-N(R_{26})SO_2N(R_{27})-$, N=N-, or $-N(R_{26})-N(R_{27})-$;

wherein

R_{26} and R_{27} are independently selected from the group consisting of : -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, and -alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

X is 

, , or ;

Y is hydrogen, $-CO_2H$, -alkylene-aryl, -alkyl, -aryl, -heteroaryl, -heterocyclyl, -cycloalkyl, -alkylene-heteroaryl, or -alkylene-cycloalkyl;

R_{25} is $-SO_3H$, $-P(O)(OH)_2$, -P(O)(O-alkyl)(OH), $-CO_2H$, $-CO_2$-alkyl, an acid isostere, -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, or -alkylene-arylene-alkyl,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or prodrug thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein W is $-N(R_4)-$, wherein R_4 is -alkyl, $-L_2$-D-alkyl, or $-L_2$-D-aryl, wherein L_2 is alkylene, and D is a direct bond, –C(O)- or –O-.

3. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein W is $-N(R_4)-$, wherein R_4 is hydrogen.

4. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein W is $-N(R_4)-$, wherein R_4 is $-L_2$-D-G, wherein L_2 is alkenyl or alkynyl, D is a direct bond, and G is hydrogen or alkyl.

5. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein X is –C(O)- or CH_2.

6. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R_1 is hydrogen or aryl.

7. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R_2 is: -alkyl, -aryl, $-L_4$-J-cycloalkyl, arylene-alkyl, $-L_4$-arylene-J-alkyl, or -J-alkyl, wherein L_4 is alkylene or alkenylene, and J is a direct bond or –O-.

8. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R_3 is -H; X is -C(O)-; R_2 is $-L_4$-arylene-J-alkyl, $-L_4$-J-cycloalkylene-alkyl or $-L_4$-J-alkylene-aryl, wherein L_4 is alkylene, alkenylene, or a direct bond; and J is a direct bond, -O-, or -NH-.

9. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R_3 is hydrogen.

10. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Ar_1 is a phenyl or naphthyl group optionally having 1 to 5 substituents, wherein the substituents are independently selected from the group consisting of:

a) -fluoro;
b) -chloro;
c) -bromo;
d) -iodo;
e) -cyano;
f) -nitro;
g) -perfluoroalkyl;
h) -K-R_{17};
i) -alkyl;
j) -aryl;
k) -heteroaryl;
l) -heterocyclyl;
m) -cycloalkyl;
n) - L_5-aryl;
o) - L_5-arylene-aryl;
p) - L_5-arylene-alkyl;
q) -arylene-alkyl;
r) -arylene-arylene-alkyl;
s) -K-alkyl;
t) -K-aryl;
u) -K-alkylene-aryl;
v) -K-arylene-alkyl;
w) -K-alkylene-arylene-aryl;
x) -K-arylene-arylene-aryl;
y) -K-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;
z) - L_5-K-alkylene-aryl;
aa) -arylene-K-alkyl;
bb) - L_5-K-aryl;
cc) - L_5-K-heteroaryl;

dd) - L_5-K-cycloalkyl;

ee) - L_5-K-heterocyclyl;

ff) - L_5-K-arylene-alkyl;

gg) - L_5-K-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

hh) - L_5-K-alkyl;

ii) - L_5-K-R_{17};

jj) -arylene-K-R_{17}; ~~or~~ and

kk) -hydrogen;

wherein

L_5 is a direct bond, –alkylene, -alkenylene, or –alkynylene;

K ~~is~~ is a direct bond, $-CH_2-$, -O-, $-N(R_{18})-$, -C(O)-, $-CON(R_{18})-$, $-N(R_{18})C(O)-$, $-N(R_{18})CON(R_{19})-$, $-N(R_{18})C(O)O-$, $-OC(O)N(R_{18})-$, $-N(R_{18})SO_2-$, $-SO_2N(R_{18})-$, -C(O)-O-, -O-C(O)-, -S-, -S(O)-, $-S(O_2)-$, $-N(R_{18})SO_2N(R_{19})-$, -N=N-, or $-N(R_{18})-N(R_{19})-$,

wherein

R_{17}, R_{18}, and R_{19} are independently selected from the group consisting of: -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, ~~or~~ and -alkylene-arylene-alkyl.

11. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Ar_1 is a phenyl group substituted 1 to 5 times with substituents independently selected from the group consisting of:

a) -fluoro;

b) -chloro;

c) -bromo;

d) -iodo; ~~or~~ and

e) -nitro.

12. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Ar_2 comprises [[sa]] a phenylene or naphthylene group optionally having 1 to 5 substituents, wherein the substituents are independently selected from the group consisting of:

a) -fluoro;

b) -chloro;

c) -bromo;

d) -iodo;

e) -cyano;

f) -nitro;

g) -perfluoroalkyl;

h) -Q-R_{20};

i) -alkyl;

j) -aryl;

k) -heteroaryl;

l) -heterocyclyl;

m) -cycloalkyl;

n) -L_6-aryl;

o) -L_6-arylene-aryl;

p) -L_6-arylene-alkyl;

q) -arylene-alkyl;

r) -arylene-arylene-alkyl;

s) -Q-alkyl;

t) -Q-aryl;

u) -Q-alkylene-aryl;

v) -Q-arylene-alkyl;

w) -Q-alkylene-arylene-aryl;

x) -Q-arylene-arylene-aryl;

y) -Q-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

z) -L_6-Q-alkylene-aryl;

aa) -arylene-Q-alkyl;

bb) -L_6-Q-aryl;

cc) -L_6-Q-heteroaryl;

dd) -L_6-Q-cycloalkyl;

ee) -L_6-Q-heterocyclyl;

ff) -L_6-Q-arylene-alkyl;

gg) -L_6-Q-alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

hh) -L_6-Q-alkyl;

ii) -L_6-Q-alkylene-aryl-R_{20};

jj) -L_6-Q-alkylene-heteroaryl-R_{20};

kk) -arylene-Q-alkylene- R_{20};

ll) -heteroarylene-Q-alkylene- R_{20};

mm) -L_6-Q-aryl- R_{20};

nn) –L_6-Q-heteroarylene- R_{20};

oo) –L_6-Q-heteroaryl- R_{20};

pp) –L_6-Q-cycloalkyl- R_{20};

qq) –L_6-Q-heterocyclyl- R_{20};

rr) –L_6-Q-arylene-alkyl- R_{20};

ss) –L_6-Q-heteroarylene-alkyl- R_{20};

tt) –L_6-Q-alkylene-arylene-alkyl- R_{20};

uu) –L_6-Q-alkylene-heteroarylene-alkyl- R_{20};

vv) –L_6-Q-alkylene-cycloalkylene-alkyl- R_{20};

ww) –L_6-Q-alkylene-heterocyclylene-alkyl- R_{20};

xx) –L_6-Q-alkyl- R_{20};

yy) –L_6-Q- R_{20};

zz) -arylene-Q- R_{20};

aaa) -heteroarylene-Q- R_{20};

bbb) -heterocyclylene-Q- R_{18};

ccc) -Q-alkylene- R_{20};

ddd) -Q-arylene- R_{20};

eee) -Q-heteroarylene- R_{20};

fff) -Q-alkylene-arylene- R_{20};

ggg) -Q-alkylene-heteroarylene- R_{20};

hhh) -Q-heteroarylene-alkylene- R_{20};

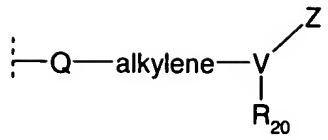
iii) -Q-arylene-alkylene- R_{20};

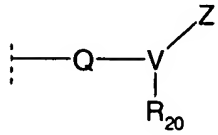
jjj) -Q-cycloalkylene-alkylene- R_{20};

kkk) -Q-heterocyclylene-alkylene- R_{20};

lll) -Q-alkylene-arylene-alkyl- R_{20}; or

mmm) -Q-alkylene-heteroarylene-alkyl- R_{20};

nnn)  ;

ooo)  ; and

ppp) –hydrogen,

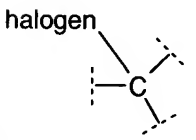
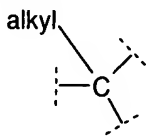
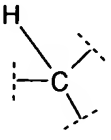
wherein

L_6 is a direct bond, –alkylene, -alkenylene , or –alkynylene;

Q is a direct bond, $–CH_2-$, -O-, $-N(R_{21})-$, -C(O)-, $-CON(R_{21})-$, $-N(R_{21})C(O)-$, $-N(R_{21})CON(R_{22})-$, $-N(R_{21})C(O)O-$, $-OC(O)N(R_{21})-$, $-N(R_{21})SO_2-$, $-SO_2N(R_{21})-$, -C(O)-O-, -O-C(O)-, -S-, -S(O)-, $-S(O_2)-$, $-N(R_{21})SO_2N(R_{22})-$, N=N-, or $-N(R_{21})-N(R_{22})-$;

wherein

R_{21} and R_{22} are independently selected from the group consisting of: -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, ~~or~~ and -alkylene-arylene-alkyl;

V is  ,  , or  ;

Z is hydrogen, $-CO_2H$, -alkylene-aryl, -alkyl, -aryl, -heteroaryl, -heterocyclyl, -cycloalkyl, -alkylene-heteroaryl, or -alkylene-cycloalkyl;

R_{20} is $-SO_3H$, $-P(O)(OH)_2$, -P(O)(O-alkyl)(OH), $–CO_2H$, $-CO_2$-alkyl, an acid isostere, hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, -arylene-alkyl, -alkylene-aryl, or -alkylene-arylene-alkyl.

13. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Ar_2 comprises a phenyl or naphthyl group optionally substituted 1 to 5 times, wherein the substituents are independently selected from the group consisting of:

a) -fluoro;

b) -chloro;

c) -bromo;

d) -iodo;

e) -Q-R_{20};

f) -alkyl;

g) -aryl;

h) -arylene-alkyl;

i) -Q-alkyl; and

j) -arylene-Q-alkyl;

wherein

Q is: $-CH_2-$, -O-, -C(O)-, or -C(O)-O-; and

R_{20} is: -hydrogen, -alkyl, -aryl, cycloalkyl, -alkenyl, $-CO_2H$, or an acid isostere.

14. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Ar_2 is a phenyl group substituted 1 to 5 times, wherein the substituents are independently selected from the group consisting of

a) -fluoro;

b) -chloro;

c) -bromo;

d) -iodo;

e) -Q-R_{20};

f) -alkyl;

g) -phenyl;

h) -phenylene-alkyl;

i) -Q-alkyl; ~~or~~ and

j) -phenylene-Q-alkyl;

wherein

Q is: $-CH_2-$, -O-, -C(O)-, or -C(O)-O-; and

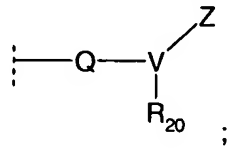
R_{20} is: -hydrogen, -alkyl, –phenyl, -cycloalkyl, alkenyl, or $-CO_2H$.

15. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Ar_2 is a phenyl group substituted 1 to 5 times, wherein the substituents are independently selected from the group consisting of :

a) -Q-alkyl;

b) -Q-arylene-R_{20};

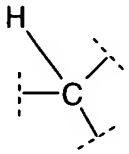
c) -Q-alkylene-arylene-R_{20}; and

d) -Q-  ;

wherein

Q is: $-CH_2-$, -O-, -C(O)-, or -C(O)-O-;

Z is $-CO_2H$ ~~and~~ or an acid isostere;

V is  ; and

R_{20} is: $-CO_2H$ or an acid isostere.

16. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein L_1 is -O-alkylene- or a direct bond.

17. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein T is an aryl group substituted by -U-alkylene-R_{25}, wherein U is -O- or a direct bond and R_{25} is $-CO_2H$ or an acid isostere.

18. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein X and R_2 together form a group selected from the group consisting of:

tert-butoxycarbonyl, tert-butyl-methyl-carbonyl, 4-cyclohexyl-butyryl, 3-cyclohexyl-propionyl, 2-cyclohexyl-acetyl,4-tert-butyl-phenyl)-carbonyl, 4-(4'-

methoxyphenyl)-butyryl, 4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-butyryl, 3-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-propionyl, 3-(3'-methoxyphenyl)-propionyl, 3-(4'-methoxy-phenyl)-acryl, 3-(4'-chloro-phenyl)-acryl, 2-(4'-methoxy-phenyl)-acetyl, 2-(4'-chloro-phenyl)-acetyl, 2-(4'-methylsulfonyl-phenyl)-acetyl, 2-(4'-methylsulfonyl-phenyl)-acetyl, 4-(4'-chloro-2'-methyl-phenoxy)-butyryl, 4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-butyryl, and 4-(4'-cyclohexyl)-propyl.

19. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein a equals 0, and the groups T, L_1, and Ar_2 together form a group selected from the group consisting of: 4'-n-butoxy-3'-n-butoxy carbonyl phenyl, ~~or~~ and 4'-n-butoxy-3'-carboxyl phenyl.

20. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Ar_1 is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, naphthyl, 4-nitrophenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 3-chlorophenyl, 3, 4-dichlorophenyl, 2, 4-dichlorophenyl, 2,5-dichlorophenyl, 2,6-dichlorophenyl, ~~4-cynophenyl~~ 4-cyanophenyl, 4-bromophenyl, ~~or~~ and pentafluorophenyl.

21. (Currently Amended) The compound of Formula (I) according to claim 1, where the compound of Formula (I) ~~comprises~~ is selected from the group consisting of:

2-[3-(4'-Methoxyphenyl)-propionylamino]-2-(4'-n-butoxy-3'-carboxyphenyl)-2-ethyl[4-(4'-nitrophenyl)]imidazole;

2-[3-(4'-Methoxy-phenyl)-acrylamino]-2-(4'-n-butoxy-3'-carboxyphenyl)-2-ethyl[4-(4'-nitrophenyl)]imidazole;

2-[4-(4'-Methoxyphenyl)-butyryl amino]-2-(4'-n-butoxy-3'-carboxy phenyl)-2-ethyl [4-(2', 4'-dichlorophenyl)] imidazole;

2-[4-(4'-Cyclohexyl)-propanoylamino]-2-(4'-n-butoxy-3'-carboxyphenyl)-2-ethyl[4-(2',4'-dichlorophenyl)] imidazole;

N-{(1*S*)-2-(4-(1,1-Dicarboxymethoxy)phenyl)-1-[4-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-1H-1-(1-butyl)imidazol-2-yl]ethyl}-4-tert-butylcyclohexanecarboxamide;

4-(4-{(2S)-2-[(4-tert-Butyl-cyclohexanecarbonyl)-amino]-2-[1-butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]-ethyl}-phenoxymethyl)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2*S*)-2-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-acetylamino]-ethyl}-phenoxymethyl)-benzoic acid;

4-{4-[2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2*S*)-2-(2-cyclopentyl-acetylamino)-ethyl]-phenoxymethyl}-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2*S*)-2-[(*trans*-4-methyl-cyclohexanecarbonyl)-amino]-ethyl}-phenoxymethyl)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2*S*)-2-[(*trans*-4-ethyl-cyclohexanecarbonyl)-amino]-ethyl}-phenoxymethyl)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{(2*S*)-2-[(4-tert-Butyl-cyclohexanecarbonyl)-amino]-2-[4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-(*E*)-1-pent-2-enyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl]-ethyl}-phenoxymethyl)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[4-(2,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-(*E*)-1-pent-2-enyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2*S*)-2-[(trans-4-ethyl-cyclohexanecarbonyl)-amino]-ethyl}-phenoxymethyl)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-But-2-ynyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[(trans-4-ethyl-cyclohexanecarbonyl)-amino]-ethyl}-phenoxymethyl)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{(2S)-2-[(4-tert-Butyl-cyclohexanecarbonyl)-amino]-2-[1-butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[(trans-4-ethyl-cyclohexane-carbonyl)-amino]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[4-(2,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-1-pent-2-enyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[(trans-4-ethyl-cyclohexane-carbonyl)-amino]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-But-2-ynyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[(trans-4-ethyl-cyclohexanecarbonyl)-amino]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[4-(3-fluorobenzylcarbamoyl)-butyrylamino]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-acetylamino]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[2-(2,4-difluorophenyl)-acetylamino]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-{4-[2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-(4-methoxy-benzoylamino)-ethyl]-phenoxy}-benzoic acid;

4-{4-[2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-(3,5-difluoro-benzoylamino)-ethyl]-phenoxy}-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-ureido]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

Trans-4-Ethyl-cyclohexane-carboxylic acid ((1S)-1-[1-butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]-2-{4-[4-(1H-tetrazol-5-yl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-ethyl)-amide;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[3-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-ureido]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[3-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-ureido]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[3-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2-(2S)-isobutyrylamino-propionylamino]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[3-(4-tert-butyl-phenyl)-(2S)-2-isobutyrylamino-propionylamino]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid;

4-(4-{2-[1-Butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]- (2S)-2-[4-(4-chloro-phenyl)-(3S)-3-isobutyrylamino-butyrylamino]-ethyl}-phenoxy)-benzoic acid; ~~and~~

4-tert-Butyl-cyclohexanecarboxylic acid ((1S)-1-[1-butyl-4-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]-2-{4-[4-(1H-tetrazol-5-yl)-benzyloxy]-phenyl}-ethyl)-amide,

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

22. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutically composition comprising ~~acceptable salt, solvate, or prodrug of a compound of Formula (I)~~ a compound ~~according to~~ as claimed in claim 1.

23. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 22, wherein said compound is ~~applied to the skin~~ a topical formulation.

24. (Currently Amended The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein said ~~compoun~~ compound is administered in a formulation ration of 0.1% to 99% of compound to topical excipient.

25. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1 sufficient to inhibit protein tyrosine phosphatase.

26. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 25, in the form of an oral dosage or parenteral dosage unit.

27. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 25, wherein said compound is administered as a dose in a range from about 0.003 to 500 mg/kg of body weight per day.

28. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 25, wherein said compound is administered as a dose in a range from about 0.1 to 200 mg/kg of body weight per day.

29. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 25, wherein said compound is administered as a dose in a range from about 0.1 to 100 mg/kg of body weight per day.

30. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 25, further comprising one or more therapeutic agents selected from the group consisting of alkylating agents, antimetabolites, plant alkaloids, antibiotics, hormones, biologic response modifiers, analgesics, NSAIDs, DMARDs, glucocorticoids, sulfonylureas, biguanides, acarbose, PPAR agonists, DPP-IV inhibitors, GK activators, insulin, insulin mimetics, insulin secretagogues, insulin sensitizers, GLP-1, GLP-1 mimetics, cholinesterase inhibitors, antipsychotics, antidepressants, anticonvulsants, HMG CoA reductase inhibitors, cholestyramine, and fibrates.

31. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat type I diabetes.

32. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat type II diabetes.

33. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat immune dysfunction.

34. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat AIDS.

35. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat autoimmune diseases.

36. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat glucose intolerance.

37. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat obesity.

38. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat cancer.

39. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat psoriasis.

40. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat allergic diseases.

41. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat infectious diseases.

42. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat inflammatory diseases.

43. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat diseases involving the modulated synthesis of growth hormone.

44. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat diseases involving the modulated synthesis of growth factors or cytokines which affect the production of growth hormone.

45. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound as claimed in claim 1, sufficient to treat Alzheimer's disease.

46. (Original) A method of inhibition protein tyrosine phosphatases which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a pharmacologically effective amount of a compound as claimed in claim 1.

47. (Currently Amended) A method of prevention and/or treatment of PTPase mediated human diseases, treatment comprising alleviation of one or more symptoms resulting from that disorder, to an outright cure for that particular disorder or prevention of the onset of the disorder, the method comprising ~~administration~~ administering to a human in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound ~~of Formula (I)~~ as claimed in claim 1.

48. (Original) The method of claim 46, further comprising administering to a subject in need thereof at least one adjuvant and/or additional therapeutic agent(s).

49. (Currently Amended) A method of treating PTPase mediated diseases, the method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound ~~of Formula (I)~~ as claimed in claim 1, in combination with one or more therapeutic agents selected from the group consisting of alkylating agents, antimetabolites, plant alkaloids, antibiotics, hormones, biologic response modifiers, analgesics, NSAIDs, DMARDs, glucocorticoids, sulfonylureas, biguanides, acarbose, PPAR agonists, DPP-IV inhibitors, GK activators, insulin, insulin mimetics, insulin secretagogues, insulin sensitizers, GLP-1, GLP-1 mimetics, cholinesterase inhibitors, antipsychotics, antidepressants, anticonvulsants, HMG CoA reductase inhibitors, cholestyramine, and fibrates. [[.]]

50. (Currently Amended) A method for treating acute and/or chronic inflammation, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound ~~of Formula (I) as defined~~ as claimed in claim 1.

51. (Currently Amended) A method for treating type I or type II diabetes, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound ~~of Formula (I) as defined~~ as claimed in claim 1.

52. (Currently Amended) A method for treating immune dysfunction, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound ~~of Formula (I) as defined~~ as claimed in claim 1.

53. (Currently Amended) A method for treating AIDS, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of ~~Formula (I) as defined~~ as claimed in claim 1.

54. (Currently Amended) A method for treating autoimmune disease, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound ~~of Formula (I) as defined~~ as claimed in claim 1.

55. (Currently Amended) A method for treating glucose intolerance, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound ~~of Formula (I) as defined~~ as claimed in claim 1.

56. (Currently Amended) A method for treating cancer, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound ~~of Formula (I) as defined~~ as claimed in claim 1.

57. (Currently Amended) A method for treating psoriasis, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound ~~of Formula (I) as defined~~ as claimed in claim 1.

58. (Currently Amended) A method for treating allergic diseases, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound ~~of Formula (I) as defined~~ as claimed in claim 1.

59. (Currently Amended) A method for treating infectious disease, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound ~~of Formula (I) as defined~~ as claimed in claim 1.

60. (Currently Amended) A method for treating diseases involving the modulated synthesis of growth hormone, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound ~~of Formula (I) as defined~~ as claimed in claim 1.

61. (Currently Amended) A method for treating modulated synthesis of growth factors or cytokines which affect the production of growth hormone, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound ~~of Formula (I) as defined~~ as claimed in claim 1.

62. (Currently Amended) A method for treating Alzheimer's disease, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound ~~of Formula (I) as defined~~ as claimed in claim 1.